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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: John R. Liddicoat et al.
Serial No.: 09/760,222
Filing Date: 01/12/2001
Title: TISSUE ANNULOPLASTY BAND AND APPARATUS AND
METHOD FOR FASHIONING, SIZING AND IMPLANTING
THE SAME

Group Art Unit: 3738
Examiner: Crystal M. Gilpin
Attorney's Docket No.: VIA-14

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JUL 24 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3706

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make the following documents of record in the above-identified application:

U.S. Patents

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,669,919 issued 09/23/97 to Sanders et al.
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,769,780 issued 06/23/98 to Hata et al.
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,001,127 issued 12/14/99 to Schoon et al.
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 6,102,945 issued 08/15/00 to Campbell

Copies of these documents, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (one page), are enclosed herewith. Applicants respectfully request that these documents be fully considered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application and printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants also respectfully request that a copy of Form PTO-1449 (one page), as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned to the undersigned with the next communication.

It is believed that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. If for any reason the Examiner considers otherwise, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted by the Examiner by telephone in order that any deficiencies may be expeditiously remedied.

07/21/2003 JADD01 00000049 09760222

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A check in the amount of One Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$180.00) payable to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks also is enclosed herewith to cover the fee due in connection with this submission.

Please charge any additional fees due in connection with this submission, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this submission is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

Thank you.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

July 17, 2003

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Scott R. Foster

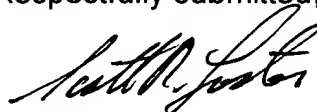
(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

(SIGNATURE)

July 17, 2003

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Respectfully submitted,



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TS/VIA14.IDS

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